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Did CIA Learn Any Lessons?

Evidently the Central Intelligence Agency is no more adept at keeping its secrets today than it was in April before the invasion of the Bay of Pigs.

Either that, or Cuban underground leader Manuel (Manolo) Ray is making some irresponsible charges. Ray declared yesterday in Miami that the CIA had provoked a rift in the People's Revolutionary Movement (MRP) that cost him his job as the anti-Castro group's chief.

Ray has no reason to love the CIA. Although he was said to have the most effective underground force in Cuba prior to the invasion, and although he joined the high council of the invading forces for the sake of unity, the CIA reportedly froze him out of the invasion plans.

Consequently there was no liaison between the invaders and one group in Cuba that might have given them a chance for success.

All the intrigue surrounding the present Cuban situation makes it difficult, if not impossible, to say with certainty what might be behind Ray's uncharacteristic blow-up.

But the trouble is that the CIA was involved so deeply in the invasion, to the surprise of so many people, nothing can be said of the agency now that will evoke much disbelief.

What is even more pertinent, intimations that the CIA is still dabbling in the mess fail to raise one's confidence in the eventual outcome.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW